

REMARKS

Claims 15-30 are pending in the application and have been cancelled herein. New claims 31-41 have been added herein. Applicant respectfully traverses each ground of rejection and requests reconsideration and further examination of the application under 37 CFR § 1.111. Applicant responds to each ground of rejection and objection as follows.

Claims 15-29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as being anticipated by Chudgar et al. Claims 15-29 have been cancelled herein. New claim 31 specifically requires "said stiffening at normal ambient temperatures will act as a stiffener primarily in a direction different from the longitudinal axis of the body to be stiffened." It is respectfully submitted that the above-recited element of Applicant's claim 31 is not shown in the references of record. The Chudgar reference does not disclose a reinforcement layer in which the stiffening acts primarily in a direction different from the longitudinal axis of the body to be stiffened. The Chudgar reference is concerned only with a reinforcement layer "which imparts strength and burst resistance to the hose." (Column 1, lines 11-12). Chudgar deals only with a normal reinforcement function for hoses and teaches only the use of known prior art reinforcement materials autogenously bonded to the hose using the novel patented process. Nowhere in the Chudgar reference does he teach that it is desirable to provide a stiffening that will act as a stiffener primarily in a direction different from the longitudinal axis of the body to be stiffened, as specifically required by Applicants' claim 31. It is therefore respectfully submitted that

claim 31. It is therefore respectfully submitted that claims 32-41 are allowable over the

references of record for at least the same reasons set forth above with respect to Applicants' claim 31.

For the foregoing reasons, Applicant respectfully submits that the present application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests such action. Should it facilitate allowance of the application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned attorney.

Attached hereto are three pages which present a marked up version of the changes made to this application by the current amendment. These attached pages are captioned "VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE."

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$920.00 for a three-month extension of time to Deposit Account No. 23-3030. No additional fees are believed to be necessary, however, should any fees be deemed required, please charge such fees to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 15-30 were cancelled.

new claims 31-41 were added as follows:

--31. An extended textile reinforcement layer for hoses, tubes and similar extended objects, that comprise:

at least one inner layer, a textile reinforcement layer, a stiffening and an outer layer that is bonded to the textile reinforcement layer and the inner layer, characterized in that said stiffening is selected from the group consisting of individual threads, individual yarns and a textile product, said stiffening forming a textile bond with the textile reinforcement layer, said stiffening at normal ambient temperatures will act as a stiffener primarily in a direction different from the longitudinal axis of the body to be stiffened.

32. The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 1, wherein a melting point of said stiffening is lower than a melting point of said textile reinforcement layer.

33. The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 1, wherein said stiffening consists of individual threads or yarns.

CONSISTS OF INDIVIDUAL THREADS OR YARNS

35. The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 1, wherein said stiffening consists of a textile product.
36. The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 2, wherein said stiffening consists of a textile product.
37. The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 5, wherein said textile product is selected from the group consisting of a fabric, knitted fabric, knit, double knit and a fleece.
38. The extended textile reinforcement layer of claim 6, wherein said textile product is selected from the group consisting of a fabric, knitted fabric, knit, double knit and a fleece.
39. A hose, tube or similar extended object, characterized by the presence of one or more extended textile reinforcement layer(s) according to claim 1.
40. A process for the manufacture of a hose, tube or similar extended object as defined in claim 9 comprising the steps of:
- (i) wrapping at ambient temperature at least one textile reinforcement layer and a stiffening as defined in claim 1 around an inner layer of said hose

- (ii) covering said at least one textile reinforcement layer provided in step (i) with an outer layer of said hose, tube or similar extended object to be formed, and
- (iii) bonding at elevated temperature said outer layer provided in step (ii) to said at least one textile reinforcement layer and said inner layer.

41. The process of claim 10, characterized in that the bonding step at elevated temperature substantially causes the reinforcement material to lose its stiffening.--